

Message Text

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TAGS: SENV, UR

SUBJECT: ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENT; PROJECT VII-2; SOVDEL
VISIT ON COMPREHENSIVE ANALYSIS OF THE ENVIRONMENT

REFERENCE: STATE 034649

REQUEST EMBASSY PASS FOLLOWING LETTER DATED FEBRUARY 20 TO
ACADEMICIAN IZRAEL:

"DEAR ACADEMICIAN IZRAEL: FURTHER TO MY LETTER OF FEBRUARY
14, WE WOULD BE INTERESTED IN HAVING THE SOVIET DELEGATION
PREPARE WORKING PAPERS ON ANY OF THE SUBJECTS INDICATED
BELOW FOR THE PROPOSED VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES, MARCH
28 THROUGH APRIL 11. AREA REFERENCES ARE IN ACCORDANCE WITH
THE PROTOCOL SIGNED AT TBILISI MARCH 29, 1974.

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WE REALIZE THAT IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE TO PRESENT PAPERS ON ALL OF THE TOPICS FOR THESE WORKING SESSIONS. HENCE, WE SUGGEST PREPARING A PAPER ON AT LEAST ONE OF THE TOPICS IN EACH OF AREAS 1, 2, 3, 6, 8, AND 9. PAPERS ON OTHER TOPICS WILL BE WELCOME.

PLEASE ADVISE WHAT PAPERS MEMBERS OF THE SOVIET DELEGATION WILL PRESENT SO THAT WE MAY PREPARE THE AGENDA FOR WORKING SESSIONS AND THE ITINERARY.

AREA 1-

- A. DESCRIPTION OF ANY USSR MONITORING PROGRAMS IN PLACE OR UNDER DEVELOPMENT TO SUPPORT COMPREHENSIVE REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS.
- B. THE SOVIET VIEW OF THE ROLE OF MUNICIPAL WASTE WATER TREATMENT IN ACHIEVING REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY, WITH SPECIFIC ILLUSTRATIONS.
- C. SOVIET EXPERIENCE WITH THE USE OF ANALYTIC MODELS FOR FORECASTING OF IMPACT OF HUMAN ACTIVITY ON EITHER A NATIONAL OR A REGIONAL SCALE.

AREA 2-

- A. IDENTIFICATION, TRANSPORT AND MEASUREMENT OF ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTANTS AS RELATED TO MANMADE SOURCES: SPECIFICALLY FOR ORGANICS, INORGANICS, AND PARTICULATES.
- B. IDENTIFICATION AND MEASUREMENT OF BACKGROUND NATURAL POLLUTANTS. EMPHASIS ON ORGANICS, INORGANICS, METALS, AND PARTICULATES. WHAT EXISTS NATURALLY?
- C. WHAT ARE THE HEALTH EFFECTS OF THESE NATURAL BACKGROUND LEVELS? DO THEY VARY GEOGRAPHICALLY?
- D. HAVE ANY ATTEMPTS BEEN MADE TO CHARACTERIZE DREDGE SPOILS FROM POLLUTED WATERWAYS AND HARBORS (FRESHWATER AND MARINE) WITH RESPECT TO THEIR SUITABILITY FOR DISPOSAL? IF SO, WHAT ARE THE SIGNIFICANT RESULTS?
- E. EXPERIENCE WITH ALTERNATIVE DISINFECTION SYSTEMS FOR DRINKING WATER, SUCH AS OZONIZATION.

AREA 3-

- A. USSR PROCEDURES FOR ASSESSING PESTICIDE RESIDUES IN THE UNCLASSIFIED

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ATMOSPHERE.

- B. DESCRIPTION OF USSR AIR AND WATER MONITORING: E.G., NATIONWIDE CONTINUOUS OPERATIONS NETWORK; SERIES OF SHORT-TERM STUDIES; FREQUENCY OF MONITORING; INSTRUMENTATION USED; DATA HANDLING SYSTEM; REMOTE SENSING.
- C. DESCRIPTION OF EARLY WARNING SYSTEMS.
- D. USSR BIOLOGICAL MONITORING PROGRAMS; TISSUE ANALYSIS; PLANT, ANIMAL SPECIES AND CHANGES IN POPULATIONS.

AREA 4-

A. WHAT ARE THE MOST SERIOUS GROUNDWATER POLLUTION PROBLEMS IN THE USSR, AND WHAT ARE THEIR CAUSES?

B. WHAT STUDIES ARE BEING CONDUCTED TO DETERMINE THE INPUT OF AIR-BORNE POLLUTANTS TO AQUATIC ECOSYSTEMS, AND WHAT METHODS ARE USED? IN PARTICULAR, WHAT IS KNOWN ABOUT THE PH TRENDS OF RAINFALL OVER THE YEARS AND THE EFFECT OF ANY INCREASE IN ACIDITY ON TERRESTRIAL AND AQUATIC

SYSTEMS?

C. DRINKING WATER QUALITY, STANDARDS, AND HEALTH EFFECTS.

D. HEALTH AND ECOLOGICAL EFFECTS OF LAND APPLICATION OF WASTE WATER AND SLUDGES.

AREA 5-

A. HAVE ANY ATTEMPTS BEEN MADE TO MEASURE THE EFFECTS OF COMPLEX INDUSTRIAL EFFLUENTS ON AQUATIC ECOSYSTEMS WITHOUT SEPARATING OUT INDIVIDUAL COMPONENTS? WHAT ARE BELIEVED TO BE THE IMPORTANT FACTORS?

AREA 6-

A. HAVE ANY ATTEMPTS BEEN MADE TO DEVELOP LABORATORY MODEL ECOSYSTEMS; AND, IF SO, HOW SUCCESSFUL HAVE THESE ATTEMPTS BEEN?

B. WHAT HAS BEEN THE EFFECT OF "VIRGIN LANDS" PROGRAMS (I.E., CULTIVATION OF FAR NORTHERN AND ARID GRASSLANDS) ON RARE SPECIES, HABITAT DESTRUCTION, PESTICIDE BUILDUP IN HIGHER TROPIC LEVELS, ETC.?

C. WHAT BASELINE DATA IS REQUIRED FOR THE CHARACTERIZATION OF NATURAL MARINE AND FRESHWATER ECOSYSTEMS? HOW DO YOU DETERMINE THE ADVERSE IMPACTS OF DREDGE AND FILL MATERIALS

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ON FISH, SHELLFISH, WILDLIFE, AND MUNICIPAL WATER SUPPLY?

D. WHAT CONSIDERATION HAS BEEN GIVEN TO THE IMPACT OF OIL POLLUTION ON ECOSYSTEMS INCLUDING WETLANDS?

AREA 7-

A. HOW DO YOU IDENTIFY PRISTINE AREAS IN THE WORLD? WHERE ARE THE PURE NATURAL ENVIRONMENTS NOT YET CONTAMINATED?

B. STRATOSPHERIC OZONE CONTENT, NATURAL OSSILATION AND CHEMICAL CHARACTERIZATION.

AREA 8-

A. WHAT IS THE SOVIET EXPERIENCE IN ANTICIPATING FUTURE POLLUTION PROBLEMS BEFORE THEY BECOME CRITICAL? WHAT PROCEDURES HAVE BEEN USED?

B. ARE THERE CURRENT OR PLANNED COMPREHENSIVE MEASUREMENTS OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY? HOW ARE SUCH MEASURES USED IN MAKING DECISIONS TO CONTROL POLLUTION?

AREA 9-

A. DESCRIBE HOW THE ECONOMIC COSTS AND BENEFITS FROM CONTROLLING POLLUTION ARE USED IN THE USSR TO HELP IN DECIDING ON LEVELS OF POLLUTION ABATEMENT. ILLUSTRATIONS IN THE AIR, WATER, RADIATION, OR PESTICIDES AREAS WOULD BE USEFUL.

B. DESCRIBE ONE OR MORE EXAMPLES OF HOW A COST-EFFECTIVE

METHOD FOR ACHIEVING A DESIRED LEVEL OF POLLUTION ABATEMENT IS SELECTED. ARE NEW PROCESSES CONSIDERED? ARE INTER-MEDIA PROBLEMS (E. G. AIR POLLUTION CONTROL IMPACT ON WATER QUALITY) CONSIDERED?

AREA 10-

A. A SOVIET ASSESSMENT OF TECHNOLOGICAL CAPABILITIES FOR CONTROLLING POLLUTION FROM COAL BURNING ELECTRIC POWER PLANTS; CONSIDERING AIR, WATER, AND SOLID WASTE POLLUTION.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO A PRODUCTIVE SET OF MEETINGS.

SINCERELY, ROGER S. CORTESI, ACTING DIRECTOR, WASHINGTON
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ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH CENTER" KISSINGER

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